offer of employment are eligible for a maximum loan of Rs. 10,000/- at a minimum interest rate of 18.5% per annum with quarterly rests, repayable within a period of 12 months by remittances from abroad. Such loans are in the nature of clean overdraft with collateral security of properties and/or personal guarantee by two persons to cover twice the loan amount.

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New corporate Plans of STC and MMTC

6006. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation have been asked to draw up new corporate plans for 1991-92 in the light of the recent trade reform measures;

(b) if so, to what extent the MMTC and STC have formulated their new corporate plans;

(c) whether the Government have considered these plans; and

(d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a). Yes, Sir

(b) STC and MMTC have formulated new Corporate Plans.

(c) and (d) The Corporate Plans of STC and MMTC have been finalised and both the Corporations have been asked to implement the same with immediate effect.

Textiles, Kamil Nader

Setting up of Knitwear Export Project near Tirupur

6007. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a knitwear export project near Tirupur;

(b) if so, the details and the total estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it will be helpful in the development of the graments industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (e). Government has not set any knitwear export project near Tirupur.

However, the Tirupur Exporters Association has promoted an Industrial Complex consisting of 150 sheds at Mudalipaleyarm near Tirupur under the name of Tirupur Exporters Knitwear Industrial Complex. It is expected that this Industrial Complex would further increase export of knitwear from Tirupur area.

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Project and Equipment Corporation of India Limited

6008. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:Will the Minister of COMMERCE to be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of employees in the Project and Equipment Corporation of India Limited (PEC) in various Categories as on April 1, 1989 and July 31, 1991 and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes amongst them;

(b) the total backlog of reserved posts of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as on aforessaid dates and the reasons for such backlog;

(c) the steps taken to fill up the backlog as per the instruction of the Department of Personnel;

(d) whether any posts were dereserved during this period and filled up by general candidates; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The strength of employees in the Project and Equipment Corporation of India Limited (PEC) in various categories and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes amongst them as on 1st April, 1989 and 31st July, 1991 is given below:-

Total Strength		*SCs/STs*			
1.4.89	*31.7.91*	*1.4.89*		*31.7.91*	
		SC	ST	SC	ST
271	268	49	06	50	05

(b) and (c). The total backlog of reserved posts as on 1.4.89 and 31.7.91 is as under:-

As on 1.4.89		*As on 31.7.91*	
SC	*ST*	*SC*	*ST*
12	12	12	12

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Even prior to the receipt of instructions for initiating Special Recruitment Drive to clear the backlog in 1989, PEC had been making efforts in this regard, as it issued press advrtisements for reserved posts at various times such as in July 1978, August 1979, May 1980, January 1982, August 1983 and May 1986. After receipt of Government instructions, PEC issued exclusive advertisements again in 1989,1990 and 1991 to clear the backlog. In addition to the press advertisements, PEC also addressed concerned Employment Exchanges and the registered SC/ST Associations in the matter. PEC also made a reference to Public Sector Undertakings to sponsor the names of suitable SC/ST candidates for filling up the vacant reserved posts in the Corporation.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Memorandum from Orissa to Ninth Finance Commission

6009. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE to be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa had submitted a memorandum to the Ninth Finance Commission seeking central assistance for opening of new courts, construction and improvement of court buildings and residential quarters;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendation made by the Commission in this regard; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a). Government of